

Laura McCombie

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Mob: 07810 355625 // lauramccombie80@gmail.com // North West based (can travel)

12 years' experience as Production Manager in non-scripted programming; A confident, innovative, creative and calm head under pressure. I can navigate all aspects of programme making from pre-production and budgeting through to delivery and reversion for further distribution. I spent my early career working in a technical role at a post facility which has given me a solid base and understanding of post which I have continued to build on.

Trauma Room One | 8 x 60 | Renegade Stories, 5 Star & C5.

Production Manager May 2023 - November 2023 / CEO's Alan Hayling & Alex Cooke

I held responsibility for the day to day running of this production, from setting up the production office through to delivery to the network and revisioning for distribution. Delivering on time and budget. I negotiated favourable deals for kit hire and postproduction and ensured teams had the kit and equipment needed when required. A key part of the role was to oversee the compliance and duty of care processes for both contributors and staff, working closely with inhouse and Channel 5 lawyers. I wrote the filming protocols the risk assessments and assisted the production team implement these on a day-to-day basis. Throughout filming I maintained clear communication with the hospital press office, addressed any logistical challenges and facilitated the creative ambitions. I ensured all necessary rights and clearances were obtained and the complex postproduction schedule with multiple edits running concurrently, whilst filming also ongoing; and then delivery of final content and assets to channel 5 with reversions for international distribution.

Get on Up - The Triumph of Black America | 2 x 60 | Milk and Honey Productions, BBC

Production Manager May 2022 - May 2023 / MD Lucy Pilkington, HOP Audrey English, Ces Newby

This archive and music heavy documentary was presented by David Harewood and filmed across multiple international locations including the US and Germany. I obtained US Ivisa's for all crew and collaborated with British crew, international fixers and A-list talent agents to set setup location based filming and sit down interviews New York, LA, Atlanta, London and Berlin, securing permits for numerous prestigious international filming locations including the Metropolitan Gallery, New York and high-profile locations in LA. I oversaw the production coordinator managing complex travel logistics and day to day filming operations. I worked closely with the archive producer to ensure that all rights clearances were in place for footage and music - this was complex and multi-layered with the creative objectives always at the forefront. I worked with lawyers, execs, BBC music team and commissioners to assess fair dealing risks and managed the shot replacement process in edit. Contracted all staff and talent and negotiated with talent agents. Managed the budget and oversaw all production payments, payroll and reconciliations, including foreign payments for archive and talent.

Love Faith and Me | 5 x 40 | Milk and Honey Productions, BBC - *Grierson Award Shortlist

Production Manager Oct 2022 - May 2023, MD Lucy Pilkington, HOP Audrey English

Managed multiple teams filming all over the UK simultaneously. Setup interviews with contributors in studio locations and attended filming days. Managed all aspects of budget and cost reporting edits, offline edits were fast turnaround at 5 weeks each with 4 edits running at one time. The final post and delivery was complex as the transmission deadline was tight and the running order was confirmed at a late stage.

Britain's Human Zoo | 1 x 60 | Milk and Honey Productions & Red Bicycle for C4.

Production Manager April 2022 - May 2023 / EP/MD Lucy Pilkington & Paul Berczeller.

Setup filming with PSC crew at locations throughout the UK, managing all permissions and logistics. Worked closely with the producer to ensure archive & copyright clearances were in place and managed postproduction. Budget and cost report management and contracted all staff and talent.

The Motorway s2 | 8 x 60 | Fearless Television for C5

Production Manager August 2021 - April 2022 / EP/MD Amanda Murray & Ed Wardle.

Worked directly to company MD managing a large team of self-shooting PD's working on a rota system in locations across the north of England. Oversaw duty of care and ensured that both the industry and Highways England's covid protocols were always followed. Wrote and updated risk assessments. Managed a complex and remote edit schedule, delivering to UK broadcaster and international distributor. Cost reporting and forward planning for high volume series 3.

Code Blue: Murder | 2 x 60 | Multistory Media for ITV 1

Production Manager June 2021 - August 2021 / PE Helen Houston, EP Mike Blair

Managed logistics and production team through an unpredictable filming schedule and highly sensitive filming subject, crew needed to be expanded and contracted as and when police cases were filmed. Devised and implemented complicated duty of care, protocols, and H&S procedures. Communicated with South Wales Police force to help secure filming permission.

Unbelievable Moments Caught on Camera s6 | 4 x 60 | Multistory Media for ITV 1

Production Manager March 2021 – August 2021 / PE Helen Houston, EP Will Yapp

Sourced international crews and filming permits. Set up extensive filming throughout the US and also Canada, Australia, and China with logical crews and all the logistics to accompany this. Ensuring all filming adhered to Covid rules in all countries/states. Managed UGC content and licensing from international contributors and ensured that all rights clearances were in place.

Model: Street to Catwalk s2 | 4 x 60 | Multistory Media for BBC Three

Production Manager - June 2020 – April 2021 / PE Helen Houston, EP Mark Rubens

Managed clearances for complex copyright issues, negotiating access with brands to photoshoots. Ensuring all music cleared for BBC and ITV International usage. Duty of care to young and vulnerable contributors.

Absolutely India: Mancs in Mumbai | 6 x 60 | Multistory Media for ITV

Production Manager - Oct 2019 – March 2020 / PE Helen Houston, EP Mark Scantlebury

Managed a complex four-week filming schedule in Mumbai and Goa with large crew and talent (Adam, Ryan and Scott Thomas and their Soul singer father Dougie James). Oversaw team of production coordinators and secretary, Organised carnets, visas, complex travel logistics and Risk Assessments. Attended location filming and worked closely with Indian fixers.

Other Selected Programmes Pre 2020:

56Up, (Part of Michael Apted's Up's Series) 3 x 60" Production Manager - ITV 2012

Gino's Italian Express, 8 x 60" Production Manager ITV 2019

University Challenge Comic Relief, 1 x 60 Production Manager BBC 2018

University Challenge 37 x 30" Production Manager, BBC 2018 (*RECORDED AS LIVE*)

University Challenge Christmas, 10 x 30" Production Manager, 2018 (*RECORDED AS LIVE*)

Gino's Adriatic Coastal Adventure, 8 x 30" - Production Manager, ITV 2018

Les Dawson Forever, Production Manager, 2 x 60" Shiver – ITV 2016

ITV Leadership Debate - ITV 2015 – (*LIVE PROGRAMMING*)

Ray Mears Wild River, Production Manager, 1 x 60" Shiver – ITV 2014

Ray Mears Wild Britain s4 8 x 60" Production Manager, 1 x 60" Shiver – ITV 2014

Countrywise s6- 8 x 60" - Production Manager, Shiver - ITV 2014

Fishermen's Lives, Production Manager Shiver - ITV 2014

Current Training:

Screen Skills – Managing Difficult Conversations at work

Screen Skills - Blue Light Refresher; Legal and compliance considerations.

Screen Skills - Using Social Media Posts in Programmes; rights & legal considerations.

Screen Skills - Tackling harassment & bullying at work & addressing unconscious bias.

Screen Skills - Inclusive hiring for screen industries.

References available on request.

